



June 11, 2024

Allen Berreth
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PacifiCorp
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NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Mr. Berreth:

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code section 326 and Government Code section 15475.1, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) has conducted an inspection of work completed by PacifiCorp (PC) in accordance with its 2023 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) and determined the existence of one or more violations. Energy Safety therefore issues PacifiCorp a Notice of Violation (NOV), identifying noncompliance with an approved WMP or any law, regulation, or guideline within the authority of the Office.¹

On May 15, 2024, Energy Safety conducted an inspection of PacifiCorp's WMP initiatives in the vicinity of the city of Weed, California. The inspection report is enclosed herewith. Energy Safety found the following violation:

Violation 1. Energy Safety observed that in implementing 2023 WMP initiative 8.1.2.1 - Line Rebuild program - Covered conductor installation, PC failed to report accurate installation data on pole ID 06241006.0028302 at coordinates 41.4284104694565, -122.500040636671 by reporting two lines of Covered Conductor Installation where only one line was installed. Energy Safety considers this data accuracy violation to be in the Minor risk category.

¹ Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, section 29302(b)(2)

Response Options

Energy Safety may prescribe a timeframe for resolution of a violation associated with the assigned risk category.² Within 30 days from the issuance date of this NOV, the electrical corporation must provide a response advising Energy Safety of corrective actions taken or planned to remedy the above identified violation(s) and prevent recurrence. Alternatively, the electrical corporation must advise Energy Safety that it will not correct the violation, including the reasoning or justification for inaction and all supporting documentation.³

This response shall be filed in the Energy Safety e-Filing system under the 2023 NOV Docket⁴ and the associated file name(s) must begin with the NOV identification number provided above.

Pursuant to Government Code section 15475.4, if the electrical corporation intends to request a hearing “to take public comment or present additional information,” it must also do so within the 30-day timeframe. If a petition for hearing is not received by the deadline, then the determination and conditions set forth in this NOV become final.

Prior to its response or request for hearing, the electrical corporation may also request an informal conference with Energy Safety’s Compliance Assurance Division for the purpose of disputing any issues raised in this NOV no later than five (5) business days before the response deadline.⁵ Requests for informal conference with Energy Safety must be e-mailed to compliance@energysafety.ca.gov, with a copy sent to all Energy Safety Compliance Assurance Division staff identified in the NOV.

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code section 8389(g), following receipt of the electrical corporation’s response to this NOV and resolution of any disputes, this matter may be referred to the California Public Utilities Commission for its consideration of potential enforcement action, as it deems appropriate.

Sincerely,



Patrick Doherty

Program Manager | Compliance Assurance Division

Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

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² Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 5-6

³ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, pp. 6-7

⁴ <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/EFiling/DocketInformation.aspx?docketnumber=2023%20NOV>

⁵ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, p. 6

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INSPECTION REPORT

Overview

Inspection Categories

The Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (Energy Safety) conducts inspections to verify the work performed by an electrical corporation as reported in an approved Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) or subsequent filing, and to assess general conditions of electrical infrastructure that may adversely impact an electrical corporation’s wildfire risk.

A Notice of Violation (NOV) is issued for any instances of noncompliance discovered during an inspection related to an electrical corporation’s execution of its WMP initiatives.

Correction Timelines

Violations must be corrected in a timely manner. Energy Safety may prescribe a timeframe for resolution of a violation. If Energy Safety assigns a risk category to a violation, an electrical corporation must correct the violation as required per the timelines provided in Table 1.⁶

Table 1. Risk Category and Correction Timelines

Risk Category	Violation and defect correction timeline
Severe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Immediate resolution
Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 months (in High Fire Threat District (HFTD) Tier 3)• 6 months (in HFTD Tier 2)• 6 months (if relevant to worker safety; not in HFTD Tier 3)
Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months or resolution scheduled in WMP update

⁶ Energy Safety Compliance Guidelines, p. 5



Inspection Summary

Table 2 provides a summary of the selection of the WMP inspection location and initiative. Table 3 provides a summary of the violation(s) found during the inspection. Details regarding the inspection that identified the violation are provided in the Inspections Details Section below.

Table 2: Inspection Location and Initiative Summary

Electrical Corporation:	PacifiCorp (PC)
Report Number:	PC_CAC12_20240515_0905
Inspector:	CAC12
WMP Year Inspected:	2023
Quarterly Data Report (QDR) Referenced:	Quarter 4 (Q4)
Inspection Selection:	Energy Safety viewed the contents of the Q4 QDR and performed an analysis that resulted in the selection of the WMP initiatives and locations referenced in this report.
Relevant WMP Initiative:	Covered Conductor Installation (2023 WMP initiative number 8.1.2.1)
Date of inspection:	May 15, 2024
City and/or County of Inspection:	Weed, Siskiyou County
Inspection Purpose:	Assess the accuracy of PacifiCorp’s QDR data, completeness of its work, compliance with WMP requirements, and compliance with its protocols.

Table 3: WMP Inspection Violation(s)

Violation #	Structure ID	Lat/Long	HFTD	Initiative Number	Violation Type	Severity	Violation Description
Violation 1	06241006.0028302	41.4284104694565, -122.500040636671	Tier 2	8.1.2.1 - Line Rebuild program - Covered conductor installation	Data Accuracy	Minor	Failure to accurately report Covered Conductor data

Inspection Details

Violation 1:

Relevant Requirement:

Version 3.1 of Energy Safety's Data Guidelines state the following regarding data submissions from electrical corporations:

1. "Consistent, high quality, standardized data are fundamental to Energy Safety's ability to effectively evaluate and monitor the planning and implementation of electrical corporations' wildfire safety and Wildfire Mitigation Plans (WMPs). As such, electrical corporations must bring their data submissions into full compliance with Energy Safety's requirements. In addition, Energy Safety expects electrical corporations to aggressively enhance and mature their overall data management capabilities as those are foundational to their ability to understand risk, implement wildfire mitigation [initiatives], and conduct safe operations."⁷

Version 3.1 of Energy Safety's Data Guidelines states the following with respect to data submitted by an electrical corporation when reporting on its 2023 WMP initiatives:

1. "Electrical corporations must ensure location accuracy in their [geographic information system] data submissions..."⁸

Finding:

On pole ID 06241006.0028302 at 3935 Stewart Springs Rd, Weed, CA, 96094, 41.4284104694565, -122.500040636671, the inspector observed a single line of Covered Conductor Installation where PC reported two lines. The inspector's observation is documented in Violation 1 photographs, which are attachments to this report. Photo numbers Item7IA1Img1, and Item7IA1Img2 depict only one completed line of covered conductor.

Energy Safety concludes that Violation 1 is Minor because of these facts:

1. PacifiCorp reported two lines of Covered Conductor Installation on the subject pole.
2. Only one line of covered conductor was installed at this location.
3. Energy Safety considers inaccurate data submission to be a violation of the Data Guidelines.

⁷ Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, "Data Guidelines, Version 3.1," Feb. 17, 2023. p. 1. [Online]. Available: <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=53475&shareable=true>



⁸ Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, "Data Guidelines, Version 3.1," Feb. 17, 2023, p. 10 [Online]. Available: <https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=53475&shareable=true>

Exhibits

Exhibit A: Photo Log

Structure ID: 06241006.0028302

Violation 1

	
<p>Item7GImg1: Overall Pole.</p>	<p>Item7GImg2: Pole ID.</p>



Item7IA1Img1: View of one line of covered conductor where two were reported.



Item7IA1Img2: Another view of one line of covered conductor where two were reported.